

GAGAKU

ah 'tis another poem
 and I have finally
 after thirty eight years
caught henry james
 in his
 sublime
 basket

they forced him
 down my
 gut
20 years ago
 in college
 and I couldn't
 mix with him

but now
I find him
on my own
and I like him
 as much
 as I liked
 Artaud 15
 years ago

this all speaks against
 formal education
 at least for me

my mother taught me
 how to read

all those schools did
 was keep me
 off the street

and wear out my body
for a high school coach
 and his job

and now this poem
 another poem

-- Steve Richmond

Santa Monica CA